

1 WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

2 1. A system using a computer system to provide computing as a product .
3 to a user, where computing is supported through a dynamic computing environment,
4 the system comprising:

5 an interface to present components of a dynamic computing environment to
6 the user;

7 an interface to accept user inputs for selection of components of a dynamic
8 computing environment;

9 an interface to accept user inputs specifying a configuration of the dynamic
10 computing environment;

11 a framework for creating the dynamic computing environment from allocable
12 resources; and

13 an interface for the user to compute on the dynamic computing environment.

1 2. The system of claim 1, wherein the components include hardware
2 components wherein hardware components comprising:

3 computing devices or CPUs; and

4 storage devices.

5 3. The system of claim 1, wherein the components include software
2 components wherein software components comprising:

3 operating systems; and

4 applications software.

1 4. The system of claim 1, wherein the components include network
2 components wherein network components comprising:

3 network switches and ports in switches;

4 network routers or gateways; and

5 network security elements wherein network security elements include
6 firewalls.

1 5. The system of claim 1, wherein the components include virtual
2 components comprising:

3 software licenses;

4 network connections with specified bandwidth; and

5 IP addresses or subnets where a subnet is a range of IP Addresses.

1 6. The system of claim 1, wherein the system further comprising:

2 a configuration manager that can save user configurations as components in
3 the database;

4 wherein the interface to present components can present configurations as
5 components to the user.

1 7. The system of claim 6, wherein the system further comprising:
2 an interface to accept user inputs for scheduling computing sessions;
3 a scheduler to keep track of scheduled sessions and to reserve resources for
4 sessions and to release the resources once a computing session is completed;

1 8. The system of claim 1, wherein all the interfaces are web-based user
2 interfaces accessible through a web client device i.e., a browser.

1 9. A method to provide computing as a product the method comprising:
2 the step of presenting components of a dynamic computing environment;
3 the step of accepting user inputs for choices of components;
4 the step of accepting user inputs for configuration of the dynamic computing
5 environment from the chosen components;
6 the step of creating a dynamic computing environment from the configuration
7 in response to user inputs for configuration; and
8 the step of present the dynamic computing environment to the user.

1 10. The method of claim 9, wherein the components include hardware
2 components wherein hardware components comprising:
3 computing devices or CPUs; and
4 storage devices.

1 11. The method of claim 9, wherein the components include software
2 components wherein software components comprising:
3 operating systems; and
4 applications software.

1 12. The method of claim 9, wherein the components include network
2 components wherein network components comprising:
3 network switches and ports in switches;
4 network routers or gateways; and
5 network security elements wherein network security elements include
6 firewalls.

1 13. The system of claim 9, wherein the components include virtual
2 components comprising:

software licenses;
network connections with specified bandwidth; and
IP addresses or subnets where a subnet is a range of IP Addresses.

14. The system of claim 9, wherein components include user configurations.

15. The system of claim 14, wherein the method further comprising :
the step of accepting user inputs for scheduling computing sessions;
the step of scheduling requested sessions and reserving resources for sessions;
and
the step of releasing the resources once a computing session is completed;

16. A system of using a computer system to provide computing as a resource to a user, wherein the system comprising:
a framework for providing a dynamic computing environment using allocable resources; and
wherein the dynamic computing environment is used for computing by the user.

17. The system of claim 16, wherein
a first user computes on a first dynamic computing environment;
a second user computes on a second dynamic computing environment; and
the first and the second dynamic computing environment exist concurrently and share the allocable resources;

18. The system of claim 17, wherein the system further ensures that:
the first user has secure access to the first dynamic computing environment;
the second user has secure access to the second dynamic computing environment;

the first user's computing has no impact on the second dynamic computing environment; and
the second user's computing has no impact on the first dynamic computing environment;

1 19. The system of claim 16, wherein the system further comprises a
2 resource monitor that monitors the allocable resources to guarantee the Quality of Service
3 requirements of the user.

1 20. The system of claim 19, wherein the system further comprises a usage
2 meter that measures the usage of the components of the dynamic computing environment.

1 21. The system of claim 20, wherein the system further includes a billing
2 subsystem to convert the usage measurements and the quality of service to a bill price for the
3 user.

1 22. The system of claim 21, wherein the billing subsystem is a pay-per-use
2 billing system.

1 23. The system of claim 21, wherein the billing subsystem is a periodic
2 billing system.

1 24. The system of claim 21, wherein the billing subsystem is an
2 installment billing system.

1 25. The system of claim 21, wherein the billing subsystem is a
2 combination of one or more billing systems.

1 31. An apparatus for providing computing as a packaged product to a user,
2 where the package is a dynamic computing environment on which the user computes, the
3 apparatus configured to perform the following method:

4 accepting one or more user inputs for components of the dynamic computing
5 environment and configuration of the same;

6 configuring the dynamic computing environment;

7 presenting the package as a product to the user;

8 billing the user for the product based on the price of the components.

1 32. The apparatus of claim 31, further configured to perform the steps:

2 accepting a schedule of one or more user computing sessions;

3 scheduling the sessions and reserving resources for the dynamic computing
4 environments for those sessions; and

5 releasing the resources on session completion.